

Electronic consumer goods with some form of copyright protection end up with the protection broken eventually. For HDTV devices to be equipped with copyright protection is asinine. WHEN (not IF) someone or some group breaks the protection, then what?

As a consumer, manufacturers who are forced to, or insert, something that violates my fair use rights (it may seem only in my eyes from many companies points of views, but many other consumers feel this as well), I feel it is my right to return said product(s) and alert as many people as possible about this so they don't purchase said product(s). This hurts the manufacturers two-fold (reputation and monetary). In this case, I would buy from another competitor, if possible.

In this specific case regarding FORCING copyright protection on HDTV broadcast, this would be an extreme detriment to the acceptance of the HDTV standard. My fair use rights state that I can record ESPN (which is available in HDTV format) while I'm at work, so as to watch the segments I missed while I was at work. The same applies to any other HDTV-ready channel. Taking away fair use will cripple the market for HDTV capable televisions, now and in the future. This act would also be a blow to companies that create products such as TiVo.